Job Description for NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in General Practice (Clinical Therapeutics & Pharmacology & Industry) ST1-3

1. Job Title. Academic Clinical Fellowship in General Practice with Clinical Therapeutics

2. Duration of post.
2- 4 years – depending upon level of entry:

- Entry at ST1 will be 4 years in duration, 3 years clinical and 1 year academic training
- Entry at ST2 will be 3 years in duration, 2 years clinical and 1 year academic training
- Entry at ST3 will be 2 years in duration, 1 years clinical and 1 year academic training

3. Research institutions in which training will take place
Brighton and Sussex Medical School - Department of Primary Care and Public Health.

4. Timetabling of clinical and research time
The ACF programme is intended for individuals who wish to pursue academic General Practice and Clinical Therapeutics as a future career. The fellowship is sponsored by the National Institute for Health Research. The fellowship will comprise 75% clinical training and 25% dedicated academic time over 4 years. Some protected research time is available in ST 1/2 as negotiated with their rota coordinator. The main research block happens during ST3&4 (50% protected time) with the opportunity of undertaking a credit-bearing modular Postgraduate Certificate of Research (funded up to £4500).

5. Description of research component of programme
The major research component of the programme will be accommodated during ST3 & 4. The post will be based at the Department of Primary Care and Public Health (PCPH) at Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS), under the supervision of Prof Richard McManus (Academic GP), Prof Dunx Shrewsbury (Academic GP) and Dr Elizabeth Ford (Health Data Scientist).

Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) is a joint medical school of the Universities of Brighton and Sussex with close integration with NHS Surrey and Sussex, the local Secure Data Environment and Sussex Local Authorities. The PCPH department hosts experts across a wide range of disciplines and methodologies, including general practice, public health, epidemiology, medical statistics, data science, psychology and behavioural medicine, with health inequalities as a unifying focus. The Health Data Science group uses routinely collected health data, disease registries, and large research cohorts to understand risk factors for disease, identify health inequalities, and develop digital health tools for healthcare improvement. The department hosts a mixture of clinical academics and research scientists, with funding from NIHR for research via the Applied Research Collaboration in Kent Surrey and Sussex.

For this ACF we are seeking an enthusiastic candidate interested in developing a program of work exploring the critical transition point of hospital discharge to community care; especially where there are medication changes initiated during a hospital admission (including new prescriptions, dose adjustments, and discontinuations). These medication changes have significant implications for post-discharge outcomes, which then need to be managed in primary care.

This program will utilise linked NHS hospital and primary care data to investigate the clinical consequences of medication changes initiated during hospital admissions. A cohort of patients vulnerable to such harms will be chosen such as those with a) polypharmacy (≥5 medications prescribed), b) Multiple Long-Term Conditions

(≥2 long term conditions), or c) trans people (chosen due to evidence that they may be less likely to interact with standard primary care).

Antihypertensive agents will form a key area of focus given the frequency with which they are modified during inpatient admissions and their well-recognised potential for post-discharge adverse events, though the analytical framework will be applied across drug classes to enable broader identification of high-risk prescribing transitions.

This project offers an important opportunity to identify gaps in prescribing and care transition practices, and to develop targeted interventions that improve patient safety and reduce avoidable harms and health service use.

6. Description of clinical training component of programme

The successful candidate will undertake their clinical training in the Kent Surrey and Sussex GP School which is supported by over 50 GP Training Programme Directors. GP Registrars have the support of a Clinical Supervisor (CS) during their hospital attachments and also have an Educational Supervisor (ES) – also known as a GP Trainer. The Clinical Supervisor will ensure that appropriate clinical experience is available for registrars, congruent with the developmental needs of the trainee with reference to the GP curriculum and patient safety. They will also be responsible for supervising workplace-based assessments. The Educational Supervisor will facilitate meetings with Registrars for whom they are responsible and support their learning and development and assessments in line with the GP curriculum.

GP placements are undertaken in practices approved for GP training purposes. In a similar way to hospital placements, registrars will be supported by both a CS and an ES. In line with national policy, KSS GP Registrars are spending increasing proportions of their 36-month training programmes in GP placements. All recruits to KSS GP training programmes will spend 24 months in GP placements.

Academic GP training in KSS Workforce Training and Education (WT&E) is a four-year programme with a combination of GP placements and appropriate hospital posts in the GP school, which is part of the Primary Care Department and an additional year pro-rata on research. [see above for further details of the research element]

Doctors in postgraduate GP Speciality Training (GPST) complete up to 24 months in General Practice (GP) in their 36 month GP training programme. Integrated Training Posts may be undertaken in the first two years of GP Specialty Training, and are based in a General Practice with additional curricular educational experience in another specialty. They are usually spent working 1 to 3 days per week within a specialty in 4 month blocks. This maybe a placement in an acute trust, community trust, community clinic, or other primary care environment.

There are a wide variety of posts in the hospital placements including paediatrics, palliative care, general medicine (sometimes with emphasis on managing common conditions such as cardiac and endocrine), care of the elderly (including a combined orthopaedic and geriatric post), a wide variety of psychiatry posts, obstetrics and gynaecology, ear, nose and throat (ENT) and dermatology.

GP registrars will be employed by an Acute Trust linked to the GP training programme. This will be the single employer for GP registrars.

7. Academic Programme Director name
- Dr Jessica Eccles, Associate Professor in Psychiatry, Co-Lead KSS IAT
-Dr John Jones, Associate Professor in Haematology, Co-Lead KSS IAT
- Professor Gordon Ferns, Academic Programme Director, Health Education Kent Surrey & Sussex

8. Clinical Programme Director name
Dr Rachel Oates rachel.oates2@nhs.net

Dr Alison Jarvis alison.jarvis11@nhs.net

Dr Philip Wilcox philip.wilcox2@nhs.net

Faculty Administrator - Carol Sayers uhsussex.pgme-gp-cw@nhs.net

9. Programme contact for further information (phone or email)
Dr Elizabeth Ford
Associate Professor in Health Data Science
e.m.ford@bsms.ac.uk

Prof Dunx Shrewsbury
Professor of Medical Education and Primary Care
d.shrewsbury@bsms.ac.uk

Prof Richard McManus
Professor of General Practice and Dean BSMS
r.mcmanus@bsms.ac.uk

10. NHSE contact:
Specialty Team https://lasepgmdesupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home
Recruitment Enquiries - https://lasepgmdesupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home

11. Useful websites for further information IAT Guide | NIHR
https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm
https://kss.hee.nhs.uk/primary-care/kss-gp-school/

12. Confirmation that the post attracts an NTN (A)
Yes

This job description was prepared on 18th August 2026.